Special category status to Assam

3048. DR. (SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government are considering to give retrospective effect to Special category Status to Assam with effect from Ist April 1985 as requested by the Government of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): It has been decided to place this issue before the National Development Council for their consideration.

Amount sanctioned for Meghalaya for Annual Plan

3049. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) What is the amount sanctioned by the Planning Commission for Meghalaya for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 and 2000-01;

(b) Whether the amount provided during this period;

(c) Whether the Meghalaya was provided lesser amount in comparison to the amount sanctioned to it, if so, the reasons therefore and;

(d) The steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHORIE) : (a) The Planning Commission approved an outlay of Rs. 465.00 crore for the Annual Plan, 1999-2000 of Meghalaya. Outlay for the Annual Plan 2000-2001 is yet to be decided.

(b) to (d) The Annual Plan outlay of Rs. 465 crore for 1999-2000 was revised to Rs. 350 crore as proposed by the State Government.

Self Employment Schemes in Meghalaya

3050. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the self employment schemes being implemented by Government of Meghalaya;

(b) the details of annual targets fixed for creation of new employment opportunities in the State; and

(c) The steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF H.ANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE).; (a) to (c) The Major Self Employment Schemes implemented in the country including Meghalaya are Swaranjayanti Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in rural areas, Swaranjayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) in urban areas and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY). The SGSY covers all aspects of self-employment, viz, organisation of rural poor into self-help groups and their capacity building, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build-up, technology, credit and marketing. In urban areas under SJSRY, unemployed and under-employed urban youth are encouraged to set up micro-enterprises. Incentives to urban poor women to set up self-employment ventures under '^Development of Women and Children in Urban Areas" (DWCUA) are also given under SJSRY. Targets for self employment in Meghalaya were fixed only for Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana. These are given below:—

Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana

Year	Target	Applications received	Loans sanctioned	
			No.	Amount sanctioned (Rs. Crores)
1997-98	550	514	456	3.20
1998-99	550	460	361	2.75
1999-2000 upto January	550	152	80	0.66

In addition to the above self employment schemes, programmes to generate wage employment are implemented in rural and urban areas. These programmes are continuously monitored and evaluated to increase their efficacy in providing wage employment.

Creation of Job Opportunity

3051. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to take effective measures to create more opportunities of jobs to the people of our country during the next five years, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what concerte steps Government propose to take in this directioii?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHORIE) : (a) to (c) The policies and programmes specified in the Ninth Five Year Plan document should enable 6.5 per cent per annum growth in GDP leading to expansion of work opportunities by 50.22 million during 1997-2002.

State Governments prepare and implement the policies and programmes for expansion of work opportunities in their respective States in response to the macro-economic situation.

(d) The sectoral policies and programmes for growth in output are supplemented by programmes for skill development, and employment generation programmes for specific sections of population: the poor, the scheduled castes, the scheduled tribes, educated youth and the women.

Estimate of Poor in West Bengal

3052. SHRI DAWA LAMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 881 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd March, 2000 and state :